Registron

Company Number: 2947030

# **AGRESERVES LIMITED**

# DIRECTORS' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1997



# **Company Information**

Directors

J. W. Creer

K. F. Keeler

T. G. Rueckert C. R. Jolliffe

A. K. Broadway

Secretary

T. Rueckert

A. K. Broadway

**Company Number** 

2947030

**Registered Office** 

Manor Farm Wood Walton

Huntingdon Cambs PE17 5YU

Auditors

Martin & Acock

2, The Close Norwich Norfolk NR1 4DJ

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#### **DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1997**

The directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 1997.

#### Statement of directors' responsibilities

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

#### Results and dividends

The loss for the year after taxation, amounted to £(39,227) (1996 - profit £265,195).

#### Principal activities and review of business

The company's principal activity continues to be that of arable and dairy farming.

The company continued to operate a policy of generating the highest profit feasible from efficient farming techniques that utilise the latest technology whilst ensuring the appearance and upkeep of the farm land and buildings are maintained to a high standard.

Good crop yields were achieved this year but, with the decline in cereal prices and especially for crops not sold on forward contracts, the company's results are significantly down on the 1996 harvest. Both the reduction of MAFF area aid payments and the strength of sterling contributed to the reduction in farming income.

The directors are committed to maintaining the positive trends in crop performance, whilst striving to improve the economic rewards gained from the continued operating success, and are confident that previous levels of profitability can again be attained.

#### **Directors**

The directors who served during the year and their beneficial interests in the company's issued share capital were:

	Ordinary	shares of £1 each
	1997	<u> 1996</u>
J. W. Creer	_	_
K. F. Keeler	-	-
T. G. Rueckert	-	-
C. R. Jolliffe	-	-
A. K. Broadway	-	-

K. F. Keeler and A. K. Broadway retire from the board at the annual general meeting and, being eligible, offer themselves for reelection.

#### Political and charitable contributions

The company made charitable donations of £334,024 (1996: £371,393) during the year.

## DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1997

# Events since the end of the year

Since the year end, the company has purchased a second subsidiary, Farmspeed (Southery Anchor) Limited. This company operates an arable farm of approximately 1,800 hectares in Norfolk.

Director

The auditors, Martin & Acock, will be proposed for reappointment in accordance with section 385 of the Companies Act 1985.

This report was approved by the board on 25 September 1998 and signed on its behalf.

## AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF AGRESERVES LIMITED

We have audited the financial statements on pages 4 to 15 which have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out on page 8.

#### Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described on page 1 the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of financial statements. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those statements and to report our opinion to you.

#### Basis of opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

#### **Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 December 1997 and of its loss for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

Martin & Acock

Chartered Accountants Registered Auditor

2, The Close Norwich Norfolk NR1 4DJ

25 September 1998

# PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT For the year ended 31 December 1997

	Note	1997 £	1996 £
TURNOVER	1,2	1,882,253	1,915,500
Cost of sales		(1,194,615)	(738,908)
GROSS PROFIT		687,638	1,176,592
Selling and distribution costs		(362,269)	(380,669)
Administrative expenses		(101,775)	(142,523)
Other operating income		81,017	51,266
OPERATING PROFIT	3	304,611	704,666
Profit on disposal of tangible fixed assets		8,057	15,186
		312,668	719,852
Income from other investments		455	-
Amounts written off investments		-	(47,227)
Profit on disposal of investments		-	26,325
Interest receivable	6	36,199	11,569
Interest payable		(208)	-
Charitable payment		(334,024)	(371,393)
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION		15,090	339,126
TAXATION ON PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES	7	(54,317)	(73,931)
(LOSS)/RETAINED PROFIT FOR THE YEAR		(39,227)	265,195
RETAINED PROFIT/(LOSS) BROUGHT FORWARD		4,761	(260,434)
(LOSS)/RETAINED PROFIT CARRIED FORWARD		£ (34,466)	£ 4,761

All amounts relate to continuing operations.

There were no recognised gains and losses for 1997 or 1996 other than those included in the profit and loss account. The notes on pages 8 to 15 form part of these financial statements.

## BALANCE SHEET As at 31 December 1997

	Note	£	1997 £	£	1996 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Intangible fixed assets	8		320,514		320,514
Tangible fixed assets	9		818,634		832,248
Investments	10		3,525,453		3,525,453
			4,664,601		4,678,215
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks	11	1,441,195		1,486,701	
Debtors	12	416,605		210,470	
Cash at bank and in hand		881,280		482,127	
Chenyrons, amounts falling due		2,739,080		2,179,298	
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	13	(1,016,550)		(1,135,381)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			1,722,530		1,043,917
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	S		6,387,131		5,722,132
PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES					
AND CHARGES	14		(71,597)		(17,371)
NET ASSETS			£ 6,315,534		£ 5,704,761
CAPITAL AND RESERVES					
Called up share capital	15		1,000,000		1,000,000
Capital reserve	16		5,350,000		4,700,000
Profit and loss account			(34,466)		4,761
SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS - All equity	17		£ 6,315,534		£ 5,704,761

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to medium sized companies.

The financial statements were approved by the board on 25 September 1998 and signed on its behalf

C. R. Jolliffe

Director

The notes on pages 8 to 15 form part of these financial statements.

# CASH FLOW STATEMENT For the year ended 31 December 1997

	Note	199 £	7 £	1996 £	£
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from operating activities (P		2	(35,365)	£.	£ 840,949
Returns on investments and servicing of finance	18		36,446		11,569
Taxation			(56,651)		-
Capital expenditure and financial investment	18		(162,610)		(522,074)
Cash (outflow)/inflow before use of liquid resources and financing		_	(218,180)	_	330,444
Financing: Capital transferred from parent undertaking Decrease in debt	18	650,000 (32,667)		(32,666)	
			617,333		(32,666)
Increase in cash in the period		£	399,153	£	297,778

The notes on pages 8 to 15 form part of these financial statements.

# CASH FLOW STATEMENT INFORMATION For the year ended 31 December 1997

	•	1997	1996	1
No	te £	£	£	£
RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING PROFIT TO NET CASH (OUTFLOW)/INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES				
Operating profit Depreciation of tangible fixed assets (Increase)/decrease in debtors Decrease/(increase) in stocks (Decrease)/increase in creditors Issue of free shares Donations		304,611 184,281 (206,135) 45,506 (29,604) - (334,024)	_	704,666 170,414 972,087 (527,258) 207,149 (5,176) (371,393)
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from operating activities		£ (35,365)	£	1,150,489
RECONCILIATION OF NET CASH FLOW TO MOVEMENT IN NET FUNDS 1	9			
Increase in cash in the period	399,15	53	297,778	
Cash outflow from decrease in debt and lease financing	32,66	57	32,666	
Change in net funds resulting from cash flows		431,820		330,444
Net funds at 1 January 1997		449,460		119,016
Net funds at 31 December 1997		£ 881,280	£	449,460

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 31 December 1997

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### 1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and include the results of the company's operations which are described in the Directors' Report and all of which are continuing.

The company is itself a subsidiary company and is exempt from the requirement to prepare group accounts by virtue of section 228 of the Companies Act 1985. These financial statements therefore present information about the company as an individual undertaking and not about its group.

#### 1.2 Turnover

Turnover comprises the invoiced value of goods and services supplied by the company, exclusive of Value Added Tax and trade discounts.

#### 1.3 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Farm building improvements and drainage Plant & machinery Motor vehicles Fixtures, fittings, tools and equipment straight line over 5 to 20 years straight line over 5 to 10 years straight line over 3 to 10 years straight line over 5 years

## 1.4 Leasing and hire purchase

Assets obtained under hire purchase contracts and finance leases are capitalised as tangible fixed assets. Assets acquired by finance lease are depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and their useful lives. Assets acquired by hire purchase are depreciated over their useful lives. Finance leases are those where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership are assumed by the company. Obligations under such agreements are included in creditors net of the finance charge allocated to future periods. The finance element of the rental payment is charged to the profit and loss account so as to produce a constant periodic rate of charge on the net obligation outstanding in each period.

# 1.5 Operating leases

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged to profit and loss account as incurred.

#### 1.6 Stocks and work in progress

Stocks and work in progress are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks. Cost includes all direct costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

## 1.7 Deferred taxation

Provision is made for taxation deferred as a result of material timing differences between the incidence of income and expenditure for taxation and accounts purposes, using the liability method, only to the extent that, in the opinion of the directors, there is a reasonable probability that a liability or asset will crystallise in the near future.

## 1.8 Pensions

The costs of providing pensions for employees are charged in the profit and loss account over the average working life of employees in accordance with the recommendations of qualified actuaries. Any funding surplus or deficit which may arise from time to time is amortised over the average working life of employees.

#### 1.9 Intangible fixed assets

Milk Quota is stated at cost.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 31 December 1997

## 1.10 Area aid income

Area aid income is recognised in the profit and loss account when the underlying crops are sold. Set aside income is recognised on a receipts basis.

#### TURNOVER

The whole of the turnover is attributable to the one principal activity of the company being arable and dairy farming.

All turnover arose within the United Kingdom.

#### **OPERATING PROFIT**

	1997	1996
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets		
- owned by the company	184,281	160,614
- held under finance leases	-	9,800
Audit fees	8,250	8,000
Auditors' remuneration - non-audit services	9,400	
Operating lease rentals	·	
- hire of plant & machinery	24,543	39,130
- other	262,008	255,917
		-

#### STAFF COSTS

Staff costs, including directors' remuneration, were as follows:		
•	1997	1996
	£	£
Wages and salaries	359,844	378,636
Social security costs	28,920	24,207
Other pension costs	24,802	18,075
	£ 413,566	£ 420,918
	<b>.</b>	##: <del>***********************************</del>

The average monthly number of employees, including directors, during the year was as follows:

	1997	1996
Farming	11	13
Office and management	7	5
	18	18
	<del></del>	

# 5.

DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION		
	1997	1996
	£	£
Aggregate emoluments Company pension contributions to money purchase schemes	51,302 4,929	52,606 3,319
	£ 56,231	£ 55,925

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 31 December 1997

6.	INTEREST RECEIVABLE			1997 £	1996 £
	Other interest receivable			£ 35,991	£ 11,569
7.	TAXATION			1997 £	1996 £
	Current year taxation UK Corporation Tax at 33% Transfer to deferred taxatio Tax on franked investment	n		54,226 91	56,560 17,371 -
				£ 54,317	£ 73,931
8.	INTANGIBLE ASSETS			Milk Quota £	Total £
	Cost At 1 January 1997			320,514	320,514
	At 31 December 1997			320,514	320,514
	Net Book Value At 31 December 1997			£ 320,514	£ 320,514
	At 31 December 1996			£ 320,514	£ 320,514
9.	TANGIBLE ASSETS	Buildings and Improvements £	Plant and Machinery £	Motor Vehicles £	Total £
	Cost At 1 January 1997 Additions Disposals At 31 December 1997	44,713	948,744 225,666 (88,305) 1,086,105	124,141 10,883 (18,469) 116,555	1,117,598 236,549 (106,774) 1,247,373
	<b>Depreciation</b> At 1 January 1997 Charge for year On disposals	7,770 5,209	245,229 147,699 (35,507)	32,351 31,373 (5,385)	285,350 184,281 (40,892)
	At 31 December 1997	12,979	357,421	58,339	428,739
	Net Book Value At 31 December 1997	£ 31,734	£ 728,684	£ 58,216	£ 818,634
	At 31 December 1996	£ 36,943	£ 703,515	£ 91,790	£ 832,248

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 31 December 1997

10.

Shares in group undertakings £	Loans to group undertakings £	Other investments £	Total £
2 520 255		E 1776	2 525 452
3,520,277		5,170	3,525,453
3,520,277	-	5,176	3,525,453
£ 3,520,277	£	£ 5,176 £	3,525,453
£ 3,520,277	£ -	£ 5,176 £	3,525,453
	in group undertakings £  3,520,277  3,520,277  £ 3,520,277	in group undertakings £ \$\frac{3,520,277}{3,520,277} - \frac{2}{3,520,277} \frac{2}{3,	in group undertakings undertakings investments £ £ £  3,520,277 - 5,176  3,520,277 - 5,176  £ 3,520,277 £ - £ 5,176 £

Investments include an investment in a subsidiary, Hallsworth (Farmland Trust) Limited, comprising a holding of 100% of its issued ordinary capital.

During its latest financial year Hallsworth (Farmland Trust) Limited made a loss of £8,384 (1996 - £15,265) and at the end of that year the aggregate of its capital and reserves was £2,920,361 (1996 - £2,928,745).

The market value of listed investments, which are included above at cost of £5,176, as at 31 December 1997 was £10,044 (1996: £6,563).

The market value of unlisted investments, which are included above at cost of £NIL, as at 31 December 1997 was £1,594 (1996: £NIL).

11.	STOCKS			
		1997		1996
		£		£
	Livestock	130,505		137,675
	Crops in store	824,651		722,935
	Cultivations	331,710		457,192
	Consumables	154,329		168,899
		£ 1,441,195	£	1,486,701
12.	DEBTORS	1997		1996
		£		£
	Due within one year			
	Trade debtors	165,894		122,695
	Other debtors	246,019		73,972
	Prepayments and accrued income	4,692		13,803
		£ 416,605	£	210,470

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 31 December 1997

13.	CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year				
	•		1997		1996
			£		£
	Net obligations under finance lease				
	and hire purchase contracts		-		32,667
	Trade creditors		1,430		34,397
	Corporation tax		-		56,560
	Other creditors Accruals and deferred income		715,732 299,388		712,005 299,752
	Accruais and deferred income	_		_	299,732
		£ =	1,016,550	£	1,135,381
14.	PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES		1997		1996
			£		£
	Deferred Tax		-		
	At 1 January 1997		17,371		_
	Charge for the year		54,226		17,371
		_			
	At 31 December 1997	£ =	71,597	£	17,371
15.	CALLED UP SHARE CAPITAL				
			1997		1996
	Authorised		£		£
		e	2 000 000	^	2 000 000
	2,000,000 ordinary shares of £1 each	£	2,000,000	£	2,000,000
	Allotted, called up and fully paid				
	1,000,000 ordinary shares of £1 each	£	1,000,000	£	1,000,000
16.	RESERVES				
			£		
	Capital reserve				
	At 1 January 1997		4,700,000		
	Capital transferred from parent undertaking		650,000		
		-	·		
		£	5,350,000		
		=			

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 31 December 1997

17. SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS		
Reconciliation of movements on shareholders' funds	1997 £	1996 £
(Loss)/Profit for the year	(39,227)	265,195
Capital transferred from parent undertaking	650,000	-
	610,773	265,195
Opening shareholders' funds	5,704,761	5,439,566
Closing shareholders' funds	£ 6,315,534	£ 5,704,761
18. ANALYSIS OF CASH FLOWS FOR HEADINGS NETTED IN THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT	1997	1996
	£	£
Returns on investments and servicing of finance Interest received Interest paid Income received from investments	36,199 (208) 455	11,569 - -
Net cash inflow for returns on investments and servicing of finance	£ 36,446	£ 11,569
Capital expenditure and financial investment		
Purchase of intangible fixed assets Purchase of tangible fixed assets Sale of intangible fixed assets Sale of tangible fixed assets Purchase of fixed asset investments	(236,549) - 73,939	(51,412) (272,847) 52,650 59,075 (309,540)
Net cash outflow for capital expenditure	£ (162,610)	£ (522,074)
	1997 £	1996 £
18. ANALYSIS OF CASH FLOWS FOR HEADINGS NETTED IN THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT (Continued)		
Financing		
Capital element of hire purchase payments	(32,667)	(32,666)
Decrease in debt	(32,667)	(32,666)
Net cash outflow from financing	£ (32,667)	£ (32,666)

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 31 December 1997

#### 19. ANALYSIS OF NET FUNDS

	1	At Jan 1997 £	c	Cash flow £		Other langes £	31	At Dec 1997 £
Net cash: Cash at bank and in hand		482,127		399,153				881,280
Funds: Hire purchase		(32,667)		(32,667)		44		-
Net funds	£	449,460	£	366,486	£	_	£	881,280

#### 20. OTHER COMMITMENTS

At 31 December 1997 the company had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	Land and buildings		Other		
	1997	1996	1997	1996	
	£	£	£	£	
Expiry date:					
In more than 5 years	264,800	<i>258,757</i>	-	-	

#### 21. PENSION COMMITMENTS

The company is part of a group scheme operating a pension plan based on final pensionable earnings. The assets of the Plan are held in a separate trustee administered fund. Contributions charged to the revenue account are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over the employees' working lives with the company. The contributions are determined by a qualified actuary using the projected unit method.

The latest actuarial valuation of the Plan was as at 31 December 1995. The assumptions having the most significant effect on the valuation results were that investment returns would be 9% and that pensionable earnings increases would average 7.5 % p.a. (pensionable earnings are currently increasing at 4.8% p.a.). The valuation showed that the market value of the Plan's assets was £6,581,000 and that the actuarial value of those assets represented 110% of the benefits that had accrued to members, after allowing for expected future increases in pensionable earnings.

The pension charged for the period was £24,802, which included allowance for the amortisation of experience surpluses. These are being recognised over 12 years, the average remaining service lives of employees.

# 22. RELATED PARTIES

During the normal courses of business, the company carried out arms length transactions various related parties as follows:

a) The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Welfare) Limited which, under the name of England Farm Properties, is the company's landlord;

Charitable covenant	£	(334,024)
Rent payable	£	(259,525)
Management fees payable	£	(7,310)
Management fees receivable	£	18,000
Balance as at 31 December 1997	£	109,421

b) Farm Management Company, the Church's agricultural division in the United States which acts in an advisory capacity;

Management fees payable £ (35,404) Balance as at 31 December 1997 £ (28,706)

c) Hallsworth (Farmland Trust) Limited, a 100% subsidiary of the company;

Management fees receivable £ 79,940 Balance as at 31 December 1997 £ (344,509)

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 31 December 1997

## 23. POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

Since the year end, the company has purchased a second subsidiary, Farmspeed (Southery Anchor) Limited. This company operates an arable farm of approximately 1,800 hectares in Norfolk.

#### 24. PARENT COMPANY

The company's ultimate joint parent undertakings are the Corporation of the President of the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-Day Saints and the Corporation of the Presiding Bishopric, both corporations being incorporated in the State of Utah.